

Advertising is to business what steam power is to machinery—the grand motive power. —MACULAY.

THE ATHENA PRESS.

There is but one way of obtaining business publicity, but one way of obtaining public attention—advertising. —H. C. WOOD.

VOLUME 7.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, DECEMBER 15 1893.

NUMBER 5

A Part of it is Sold

BUT THERE IS

ENOUGH LEFT

GET A HOME AND FARM.

I have 1250 acres of excellent wheat land, located in the Helix country, which I will sell and allow the purchaser to pay for the same

IN WHEAT

50 cts Per Bushel

All the land is well improved, has good houses and plenty of water. Will sell in tracts to suit purchaser. If you desire to secure a good farm, call and see me. I will make terms to suit you.

I am not in the Real Estate Business; it is individual property

that I wish to dispose of, and I also have some choice residence property in Athena, which I will sell very reasonable.

J. W. SMITH, Athena, Oregon.

SIMMONS LIVER REGULATOR

"As old as the hills" and never excelled. "Tried and proven" is the verdict of millions. Simmons Liver Regulator is the only Liver and Kidney medicine to which you can pin your faith for a cure. A mild laxative, and purely vegetable, acting directly on the Liver and Kidneys. Try it. Sold by all Druggists in Liquid, or in Powder to be taken dry or made into a tea.

Better Than Pills

The King of Liver Medicines. "I have used your Simmons Liver Regulator and can conscientiously say it is the king of all liver medicines. Consider it a medicine chest in itself."—Geo. W. JACKSON, Tacoma, Washington.

25-EVERY PACKAGE HAS THE Z Stamp in red on wrapper

The Mails.

Mail closes for Pendleton, Portland, and all points east, except the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin, at 5:30 p. m.

For Walla Walla, Spokane and North Pacific points at 7 p. m.

Mail arrives from Pendleton, Portland and the east at 7:45 a. m.

From Walla Walla, Spokane and North Pacific points at 6:25 p. m.

Office hours—General delivery open from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. Sundays, 8 to 11 a. m. Money order window open from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

Geo. H. HASKELL, Postmaster.

LODGE DIRECTORY

F. & A. M. NO. 80 MEETS THE First and Third Saturday Evenings of each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited to visit the lodge.

O. O. F. NO. 73, MEETS EVERY Friday night. Visiting Old Fellows in good standing always welcome.

A. O. U. W. NO. 104, MEETS THE Second and Fourth Saturdays of month. L. A. Githens, Recorder.

PYTHIAN, NO. 29, MEETS EVERY Thursday Night.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

F. S. SHARP, Physician and Surgeon. Calls promptly answered. Office on Third Street, Athena, Oregon.

DR. JOSEPH J. BILL, Graduate M. E. C. V. S. London, England. **VETERINARY SURGEON.** Office at Froome's Stable, Athena, Oregon.

D. R. I. N. RICHARDSON, OPERATIVE PROSTHETIC DENTIST. ATHENA, OREGON.

W. & C. R. Ry. Co. in connection with **NORTHERN PACIFIC R. R.** Forms the **QUICKEST AND BEST ROUTE** Between Eastern Oregon and Ashington and Puget Sound Points, as well as the Popular and direct line to all **Points East & Southeast** Pullman Sleeping Cars. Superb Dining Cars. Free 2d-Class Sleepers. **ROUGH TO CHICAGO VIA THIS LINE** Passenger trains of this Company are running regularly between **Dayton, Waitsburg, Walla Walla, Wash., and Pendleton, Oregon.** Making close connections at Hunt's Junction with Northern Pacific trains for Tacoma, Seattle, Victoria, B. C., Ellensburg, North Yakima, Pasco, Sprague, Cheney, Javert, Spokane, Butte, Helena, St. Paul and Minneapolis.

AND ALL POINTS EAST. **TOURISTS-SLEEPING-CARS.** For Accommodation of Second-Class Passenger Attached to Express Trains.

W. F. WAMSLEY, Gen'l Frt and Pass. Agt., Walla Walla Wash. W. D. TYLER, Pres. and Gen'l Manager. J. A. MUIRHEAD, Agent Athena, Oregon.

PROF. J. S. HENRY, INSTRUCTOR ON **PIANO AND ORGAN** Will be in Athena on Thursday and Wednesdays of each week hereafter. Leave orders to J. S. Henry, at C. W. Hollis' Athena.

For Gang and walking plows, harrows and seeders, the C. A. Barrett Co., will give you special bargains for the next 60 days.

STEAMBOAT MINING.

Rich Returns of Gold from the Bed of Snake River.

A Novel Means of Working the Bars of Idaho's Great Waterway—The Gold Caught on Copper Plates with Quicksilver.

Extravagant stories are told about the wealth of gold sprinkled throughout the Snake river country in Idaho. As a general thing, says the Helena Independent, the gold is very fine, the particles being of so light weight as to be elusive. Save when worked on a large scale it is difficult to make good wages in recovering the gold. Numerous bars along the river would prove profitable could water be commanded for sluicing or hydraulic. An adequate supply is hard to obtain, on account of the slight and gradual fall of the stream and the level character of the outlying lands. To overcome this lack of water as well as insure sufficient dumping ground, a big floating gold-saving dredge has been constructed and is now at work on the Idaho bank of the Snake river about ten miles above Payette.

It is a stern-wheel flatboat propelled by steam. Substantially constructed, sixty-five feet long and twenty-two feet wide, it is equipped with a thirty-five horse power marine engine and boiler and adapted in every way for navigating Idaho's great waterway. With a slight alteration it could be transformed into a steam dredge and used to scoop up sand and gravel from the bottom of the stream. That has never been attempted. As in the past, operations are now confined to working bars out of the bed or channel of the river. The method pursued is to anchor alongside one of these gravel deposits and by the use of scrapers bring the material to be handled within the reach of the gold-washing machinery with which the craft is rigged. The gravel is scooped up by buckets attached to an endless chain. There are forty-eight of these receptacles on a belt sixty feet in length, and each has a capacity of about twenty pounds of dirt, which is delivered into a hopper. This is also an agitator, and the process employed may be described as a steam rocker, with the exception that it has an end motion instead of one sideways. The gold is caught on copper plates with quicksilver. The tailings are carried off in sluice boxes by the force of a stream of water of one hundred and fifty mineral inches, supplied by a China pump, run by the engine which drives all the other machinery. The gravel is worked so thoroughly that no gold escapes in the tailings that are dumped into the river. An average of one hundred tons of gravel are daily handled, and for this work three men are employed—an engineer, one to work the scraper, and another one who shovels the dirt into pits so that the buckets can scoop up a full load.

The bar now being worked covers an area of ten to fifteen acres. The gold is on top or close to the surface and will not pay to handle to a greater depth than one foot to eighteen inches. This shows a value of one and one-half to three cents a pan. A clean-up is made every night, and the average of the runs for the first three days was very satisfactory to the owner of the craft. He says he expects to take out upward of one hundred dollars a day working as he works, which will be until cool weather sets in. When he has gone over the bar which now engages his attention he will tackle another.

INDIANS AND COMETS.

A Belief That the Sun Chases Stars and Bites Them.

When the last comet was streaming in the sky I was camping one night in a canyon near the foot of Coe's peak. In the party was an old and—for an Indian—fairly intelligent Ute, named Sam. Sam had been attached to some cavalry troop at Fort Cummings as a scout, but his day of leaving the service being reached he attached himself to me—for a consideration—says a writer in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Pointing to the comet I asked Sam what he could say in its defense from the standpoint of a Ute. Sam was, unlike most Indians, a great talker, and could speak English very well. He was ambitious to perfect himself in the language, and readily seized every chance for a talk. Indeed, I discovered him on one or two occasions all alone and talking vigorously at a mark like a savage Demosthenes.

"Tell about that?" said Sam, pointing toward the comet. "Sam do it in a heap easy. The sun is the man and he have moon for squaw. The stars—big stars and little stars—are all their children. The sun don't like 'em. If he catches one he eats it. This makes the stars heap 'fraid, and when the sun has his sleep over and comes out the stars run and hide. When the sun comes stars go—creep into holes and hide. But the moon is good. She loves her children—the stars—and when the sun sleeps she comes out in the sky, and the stars are glad, and they come out of the places they hid in, and forget to be 'fraid and play. But when the sun wakes again they run. He is always after them and he catches them sometimes. This one," continued Sam, again pointing to the comet, "the sun catch one time. He got away, though, but the sun hit him and hurt him. That's why he bleed so. Now he's heeppscared and so keeps his face always toward the place where the sun is sleeping."

Sagacity of Wild Fowl.

Wild geese and wild ducks show knowledge as to the resistance of the atmosphere and sagacity in overcoming it. When flocks of them have to go long distances, they form a triangle to cleave the air more easily, and the most courageous bird takes position at the forward angle. As this is a very fatiguing post another bird ere long takes the place of the exhausted leader. Thus they place their available strength at the service of the society.

DEATH OF A NOTED GIANT.

The Chinaman Chang, Who Was Not Less Than Nine Feet in Height.

The famous Chinese giant, Chang, died at Bournemouth, England, November 5. Chang had been seen several times in America, says the New York Herald. Because of a prevailing superstition among the Chinese people his height was never measured, as they believed that death would immediately follow the measurement. But there are none who have observed him or who have stood up beside him who estimated his stature at less than nine feet. His physical proportions were very symmetrical and his strength was herculean. Having traveled and exhibited throughout the civilized globe he acquired and spoke with fluency five different languages—English, German, French, Italian and Spanish. He was a very companionable man and delighted to meet and converse with intelligent men and women.

Chang was born in 1847 at Waung-Hue, near Pekin, China. His parents, who are still living, are large test affid silk growers, and are independent. There is nothing in their constitution nor that of their progenitors to indicate the possibility of transmitting gigantic proportions to their extraordinary son. On the contrary, Chang's parents are about the average size of Chinese people, who are well known to be rather under the ordinary size. At his birth there was nothing to indicate that he was to grow to his present stature, and up to the age of nearly six years his height did not exceed most children of his age. After a short illness he began to assume such gigantic proportions that his parents were much alarmed at the growth of their huge son. At the age of twelve he was equal to the height of his father and the generality of the neighboring people. The phenomenon of his being as tall as a man, and yet showing all the habits and actions of a child, caused him to become the wonder and astonishment of the neighborhood. At the same time he suffered great personal discomfort, for the men would not associate with him and the children would not play with him. At the age of eighteen he commenced to exhibit himself in public.

Chang was here in 1889, in 1892, and in 1895. After his last visit here he returned to his native land to marry a Chinese beauty. It was his intention at that time to come back to America and to settle down in the west. He used to wear a watch given him by Queen Victoria which weighed two pounds and a half, and had a chain nine feet long, which barely reached around his neck and down to his vest pocket. He had a large stock of gloves and jewelry presented to him by royal and other distinguished personages.

FAIR WAS A DRAIN.

Other Cities Grudge the Millions Spent in Going to Chicago.

The close of the world's fair must have an important effect upon the business condition of the country, says the New York Post. For six months there has been a steady drain of money from all parts of the nation into Chicago—money which, but for the exposition, would have been expended in thousands of cities and towns. Millions of people went to Chicago between the 1st of May and the 1st of November, and spent on the average a large sum for the round trip. The St. Paul Pioneer Press estimates that there must have been at least 100,000 visitors from Minnesota, and that they cost them on an average \$20 apiece for the journey and \$30 expences in Chicago. This would make \$5,000,000 that was taken out of Minnesota by the exposition. We believe that this is not an over-estimate. We observed the other day a statement in an Iowa paper that no fewer than 450 people had gone to Chicago during the season from one county seat in that state, and although a large proportion of them went on cheap excursions, their average expenditures were estimated at \$35 apiece. While there was a great number of visitors from the city and vicinity who paid but little, the expense was heavy for people from a distance, and there was a constant stream to Chicago from the remotest parts of the country.

If it be estimated that the 21,500,000 admissions represented no more than 4,000,000 separate individuals, and that the average expenditures were as little as \$25, this would mean the diversion of \$537,500,000 from the ordinary channels of trade into the treasury of the fair, the receipts of transportation companies, the pockets of Chicago hotel and boarding-house keepers, and the other classes who levied toll upon the travelers. It must be remembered, too, that the large part of this money came not from the wealthy, but from people who were forced to save in order to raise the necessary amount, and who consequently refrained from expenditures at home which they would otherwise have made. In this way the fair has aggravated the normal effect of the financial depression in almost every community. Its close will arrest the streams of money which from thousands of points for half a year have been flowing toward Chicago, and will thus have a very perceptible influence in improving the business situation.

Legislative Intelligence.

The intelligence of a member of the Kentucky legislature has at times been called into question, but it is hardly fair to that distinguished body of expositors at home which they would otherwise have made. In this way the fair has aggravated the normal effect of the financial depression in almost every community. Its close will arrest the streams of money which from thousands of points for half a year have been flowing toward Chicago, and will thus have a very perceptible influence in improving the business situation.

"By George," contended one, "I tell you it is spelled with an a."

"I'll bet you a dollar it is an e," insisted the other.

"I know better and we'll leave it to him."

The other gave a long whistle.

"Leave it to him, nothing," he exclaimed; "he doesn't know how to spell his name, and I've seen him run his tongue out four inches trying to write it."

HUNTING THE RACCOON.

Exciting Sport in the Fall on the Western Reserve.

An Exceedingly Tricky Animal That Can Be Captured Only by the Assistance of a Trained Dog.

The corn is fully ripe in the shock in many fields on the western reserve, and the season for raccoon hunting, or "coonin'", as it is more often called, is well advanced. It is a more exciting sport and excitement. He who has never experienced the pleasures incident to a night in the woods with a trained "coon" dog during the month of October can only learn what he has missed by enjoying such an outing at the earliest opportunity, says the Cleveland Leader.

To hunt the raccoon at night with success, a trained dog is indispensable; for the scent, disposition and "coon" education of the dog are directly responsible for the number of pelts which are brought in at a sometimes early hour in the morning. In the selection of a dog for the sport it is, not best to choose a hound, as the ability and persistence of these dogs in "giving tongue" warn the raccoon of his danger and give that crafty little animal ample time to seek safe seclusion in the hollow of some large tree, which size and value prevents the hunter from cutting down. If the dog's education has been neglected, and he manifests an inclination to follow the trail of rabbits rather than that of the raccoon, the hunter will not be likely to carry anything home further than the remembrance of a midnight ramble in the woods.

However, many dogs about whose ancestry there clusters an imperishable halo of mystery, develop into remarkable "coon" dogs. Some of them are very keen-scented, and will follow the trail of a raccoon over the ground where the scent of rabbits and other animals is encountered every few yards. A well-trained dog will take large circles and skirt along the edge of woods that border corn-fields, never "giving tongue" until their approach to the coon is so close that the vivacious little animal finds escape by flight impossible and scents the nearest tree. Then the frantic and prolonged notes of the dog proclaim to the hunter, who may be some distance away, that the game is "up" and a coon has been "treed." If the tree is a small one so much the better. The animal is either shaken out of the branches and the dog given an opportunity of testing his metal, or else the coon is shot while in the tree and the dog allowed in at the finish. It often happens that the tree is a large one, and then the scientific part of coon hunting is brought into requisition. The hunter resorts to what is called "blinding the coon." This is done by placing a lantern upon the head and walking around the tree until the reflection of two small balls of fire denotes the location of the game. Sometimes several pairs of gleaming eyes are revealed by the rays of the lantern, and then the hunter knows that the night's work will be a good one. The explosion of a heavily-charged shotgun is the means employed to dislodge the coon from his lofty perch, and he falls to the earth with a substantial thud.

The coon is an exceedingly tricky animal, especially so if he be an old-timer of the "swamp" variety—one that has encountered steel traps or innumerable dogs or been filled with bird shot. He will take to rail fences, cross streams, run along the bottom of shallow creeks for long distances, and jump anything but a freight train when thoroughly alarmed. If the dog is inexperienced, the coon is usually able to baffle his pursuers, and is safe from further annoyance for the time being. But oftentimes the sagacity of the dog will resurrect the trail that suddenly terminated at the creek, and the generalship of the pursuer proves him master of the situation.

A favorite haunt of the coon in October is in the cornfields that skirt the largest tracts of woodland. They visit the cornfields to feed as soon as darkness settles, and will sometimes go several miles to a favorite locality. They are hunted for their pelts, which may bring from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents in the market, and for the rare sport that it affords at this season of the year. Not infrequently on these expeditions the dog blunders on to one of those odorous animals that have large, bushy, black tails, and a white stripe running down the back. Sometimes the acquaintance so suddenly formed is of a lasting nature. In this event the faithful companion of man in an exciting chase is forced to abandon his favorite rag by the fire that he has been wont to lie and dream upon, and finds himself securely fastened to a large airy shed at a satisfactory distance from the house. If he is sensitive and refined the dog takes the occasion to which he has been subjected and the pronounced coldness on the part of the family circle, to heart, and is not again known to "bark up the wrong tree."

There are two distinctive species of the North American raccoon. The California or Texas animals differ from those found east of the Mississippi river in that they have black feet. The fur of the prairie coon of the west is of lighter color than that of his eastern brother. This is accounted for by the fact that all fur-bearing animals have darker coats in the more thickly timbered regions.

THE OYSTER ENEMY.

Great Destruction in the Delaware Bay Beds by the "Borer."

The "borer," a pest about the size of a small strawberry, is working great havoc among the oyster beds in Delaware bay and tributary streams, says the Philadelphia Ledger.

Capt. Moses Veale, of the oyster schooner White Lily, says that the destructive powers of the "borer" have been known to oystermen only a few years. He had followed oyster digging for nearly thirty-five years, and the first "borer" he saw was about ten years ago, but their ravages in the oyster beds were comparatively unnoticed until last year.

Capt. Veale said that "last year the number of dead oysters with holes made by borers in the shell became so great that oystermen were alarmed. This year the work of the borers has become a grave matter, and if it continues many bays will be depopulated of oysters. From one bed we dredged on this trip we got twelve hundred baskets of oysters, but out of these only two hundred were good, the dead oysters having been killed by borers. A peculiar thing about the ravages of the 'borer' is their apparent selection of the best oyster beds. We have found this to be true several times this season. We have found a bed of small oysters almost entirely free from 'borers.' This bed will be separated from another bed of larger oysters by two hundred feet, but this latter bed will be so badly affected by the creature that it will hardly pay to work it.

From what I can learn from oystermen the destruction wrought by borers is much more severe in Delaware bay than in other places.

"The work of the borer this year makes a double misfortune, for the oyster beds were badly damaged by the big storm in August and September. Very few people who are not in the oyster dredging business know anything of the methods of the borer. When I first took notice of its work I secured several oysters just after the storm had fastened itself to the shells. When the borer fastens itself it holds on like a leech, and it is with difficulty that it can be removed with the fingers.

"Sometimes the borer fastens itself to the oyster shell near the edge and then the oyster is not killed. When the hole of the borer is made near the center of the shell the oyster is attacked in its vital parts and dies in three or four days after the hole is first made.

Some of the bed-owners near Manlius river have lost large sums of money this year on account of the borer. All oystermen say there can be no way of taking away the borer without destroying the oyster beds.

FUTURE OF ALUMINUM.

Roofs for Houses and Hulls for Vessels Sure to be Made of It.

Aluminum, which itself possesses a high degree of specific heat, does not really absorb heat itself and thus is not liable to the chief objection to iron buildings in hot countries. But apart from light decorative purposes, says the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, such as balconies, cupolas, finials and verandas, it is as a roofing material that aluminum should be most valuable to the builder. In plates or scales, two-thirds lighter than copper, uncorroded by air and undimmed even by the saltpur of London smoke, it should make a roof fit for a palace of romance.

The humblest elements of health and comfort in the house hardly less important than its external defenses against the weather—pipes, cisterns, taps and gutters, now made of iron which rusts, or lead which poisons—would be more enduring and far more healthy if made of this light and clean metal, which might also take the place of all water-holding vessels now made of heavy, brittle earthenware or painted tin. An aluminum bath is among the probable luxuries of the next century. But it is not as a mere accessory to comfort and convenience that real development of the new metal should lie. It is for use at sea that its most marked quality of lightness obviously fits it.

The marine engineer and the naval architect, who are already looking in this direction for a reduction of the weight which is inseparable from loss of efficiency, whether in speed or cargo, cannot neglect the possibilities of a metal, which, when mixed in the proportion of one to fifty, gives to aluminum-bronze a hardness and toughness which makes it almost as reliable as steel, and which, if the proportions could be reversed and the strength preserved, would reduce the weight of ships and machinery alike by two-thirds. That is a problem which awaits the metallurgist for solution. The reduction in cost, judging by analogy, can only be a question of time and research.

The best steel now costs little more than one-half penny per pound, while aluminum is fifty times that price. But aluminum exists in far greater quantities than iron, is more widely distributed, and neither the limits of time nor the history of metallurgy forbid us to conjecture that, as the world has seen its age of stone, its age of bronze and its age of iron, so it may before long have embarked on a new and even more prosperous age of aluminum.